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Viewing cable 05NEWDELHI301, AFTER DIXIT, INDIA PONDERES ROLE OF ITS NSA AND WHO

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Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
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| Reference ID | Created | Released | Classification | Origin |
|---------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 05NEWDELHI301 | 2005-01-12 12:05 | 2011-08-30 01:44 | CONFIDENTIAL | Embassy New Delhi |

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/article1539544.ece>

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 04 NEW DELHI 000301

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/11/2015

TAGS: [PINR](#) [PINS](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [IN](#) [PK](#)

SUBJECT: AFTER DIXIT, INDIA PONDERES ROLE OF ITS NSA AND WHO
WILL GET THE JOB

REF...04 CHENNAI 575

Classified By: DCM Robert O. Blake, Reasons 1.4 (B,D).

¶1. (C) Summary: Two questions now swirl around India's National Security Advisor position: will it lose its major role in the Indian foreign

¶2. (C) JN Dixit's untimely death on January 3 has set the stage for changes in the NSA position and the NSC system that were predicted but ne

The Next NSA: Less Adviser, More Chairman?

¶3. (C) The buzz surrounding PM Singh's decision to rethink what the NSA and NSC should do -- irrespective of who holds the post -- is based c

¶4. (C) The eminence grise of Indian strategic thinkers, K Subramanyam, has been arguing that India needs an NSA at the helm of a fully functi

¶5. (C) Redefining the NSA as the active NSC chair also poses a geographical problem if it is to remain in the forefront of GOI policymaking.

Narayanan Has the Edge

¶6. (C) By most accounts, PM Singh's Special Advisor MK ("Mike") Narayanan, who became Acting National Security Advisor on January 4 after I

¶7. (C) That said, the Indian media has been awash with the names of other NSA aspirants, many of whom possess far stronger foreign policy cre

The Indian press has been quick to handicap the "contenders," many of whom have been promoting their own suitability. For example, Sen arriv

He's No Dixit

¶8. (C) Unlike Dixit and Mishra, Narayanan is not a former Foreign Service Officer, and has not served overseas in any capacity; he thus does

Early Tests Likely

¶9. (C) If Narayanan continues as NSA, he will face an early test as both Intelligence Bureau head AK Doval and Research and Analysis Wing chi
skeptical of RAW, would look outside the organization for Sahay's successor, and might bring in a senior IB officer for the job.

¶10. (C) Narayanan -- or whoever becomes NSA on a permanent basis -- will also have his hands full with other intelligence issues, not the le

¶11. (C) If he inherits Dixit's diplomatic role with Pakistan, China, and the US, Narayanan will suffer several disadvantages, the most import

An Intelligence Professional

¶12. (C) Narayanan joined the Indian Police Service (IPS) in 1955 and spent his first four years with the IPS in Tamil Nadu. Calm, analytica

¶13. (C) He became one of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's confidants after moving to the IB, India's primary internal intelligence service, in

¶14. (C) In 1990, Prime Minister VP Singh moved Narayanan from the IB to become Chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee and Secretary of

Need for "Holistic Synergy" on Kashmir, Pakistan

¶16. (C) During his retirement years, Narayanan revealed particular interest in Pakistan and Kashmir through weekly columns he contributed to

Personal Data

¶17. (C) Born on March 10, 1934 to a Kerala Nair (non-Brahmin, upper caste) family, Narayanan completed his bachelor's degree at Madras Christ

¶18. (C) According to a January 17 "Outlook" weekly profile by its foreign affairs correspondent V Sudarshan, Narayanan is a teetotaler and
distinction.

¶19. (C) Along with Principal Secretary TKA Nair, Narayanan constitutes what is now a Keralite "mafia" in the PMO. In a bureaucratic cultur
MULFORD